

NPL Site Narrative for Harbor Oil

HARBOR OIL

Portland, Oregon

Federal Register Notice: [September 5, 2002](#)

Harbor Oil is a waste oil reprocessing facility located on approximately 4.2 acres in an industrial area of Portland, Oregon. The site formerly also operated as a tank truck cleaning facility. In late 1980, the facility submitted a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Part A Permit Application indicating the company's main business was reclaiming industrial fuel/lubricating oils and waste solvents. A revised RCRA Part A application stated the company did not reclaim used solvents and that its business was the collection of used oils and asphalts which are processed and re-refined into usable products.

Currently, onsite petroleum recovery process tanks consist of a 4,000-gallon diesel fuel storage tank; six 20,000-gallon heated storage tanks: six 20,000-gallon cold storage tanks; and 205,000-gallon and 320,000-gallon cold storage tanks. These tanks hold used petroleum products in varying stages of recovery.

Waste oils received at the facility are first transferred into heat tanks for dehydration, distillation, and blending. Following heat processing, the blended oils flow through an oil/water separator. The separated oils are transferred into settling tanks equipped with filters. The separated water is piped into a surge tank. Processed oils are transferred into storage tanks.

In March 1974, there was a major spill or release of waste oil from on site storage tanks. In addition, in October 1979, a severe fire destroyed the facility and melted/ruptured five 20,000-gallon aboveground used oil tanks. The incident caused large volumes of used oils and smaller volumes of waste paints to flow west and south across the site, into the wetlands that border the site and Force Lake.

In July and August 2000, consultants for the EPA conducted a Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection at the facility. Historical documentation, sampling, and analytical results document the presence of several hazardous substances on-site including volatile organic compounds, semi-volatile organic compounds, metals, pesticides, and polychlorinated biphenyls. Two sources of contamination were documented: waste oil storage tanks and contaminated soil.

The 15-mile target distance limit (TDL) for this site begins at a permitted outfall which is located in the wetlands west of the site and continues south for approximately 300 feet through the wetlands to Force Lake, and ends at the southern shore of this lake, a distance of approximately 0.2 miles. Force Lake is a spring and seep-fed lake. Force Lake drains a fairly small surface area, but the water level is maintained by ground water inflow from the springs and seeps.

Force Lake supports recreational fishing activities. A large palustrine emergent seasonally flooded wetland having a perimeter of approximately 1.3 miles is located immediately west and south of the site.

[The description of the site (release) is based on information available at the time the site was evaluated with the HRS. The description may change as additional information is gathered on the sources and extent of contamination. See [56 FR 5600](#), February 11, 1991, or subsequent FR notices.]

For more information about the hazardous substances identified in this narrative summary, including general information regarding the effects of exposure to these substances on human health, please see the Agency for Toxic

Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) ToxFAQs. ATSDR ToxFAQs can be found on the Internet at <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq.html> or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.